

December 1999

NORTH FORK JOHN DAY WATERSHED PROGRAM, FY 1998 HABITAT PROJECTS

Annual Report 1998



DOE/BP-11181-1



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Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 3621
905 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97208-3621

Please include title, author, and DOE/BP number in the request.

North Fork John Day Watershed Program

FY 1998 Habitat Projects

Prepared by:

North Fork John Day Watershed Council Coordinator

Prepared for:

U.S. Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Division

Project Number: 9801700
Contract Number: 98 BI 11181

December 1999

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<u>Contract#</u>	<u>Project#</u>	<u>Project Name</u>
98 BI 11181	9801700	Eliminate Gravel Push-Up Dams on Lower North Fork John Day

Introduction

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council was formed in September of 1995. The Council coordinates restoration efforts and facilitates cooperation between private landowners, state and federal agencies, and interest groups within the North and Middle Fork subbasins. The North Fork John Day Watershed Council coordinates educational, informational, and project activities over 2600 square miles. The council is comprised of individuals representing private landowner, tribal, agricultural, natural resource, environmental, industrial, educational, and municipal interests.

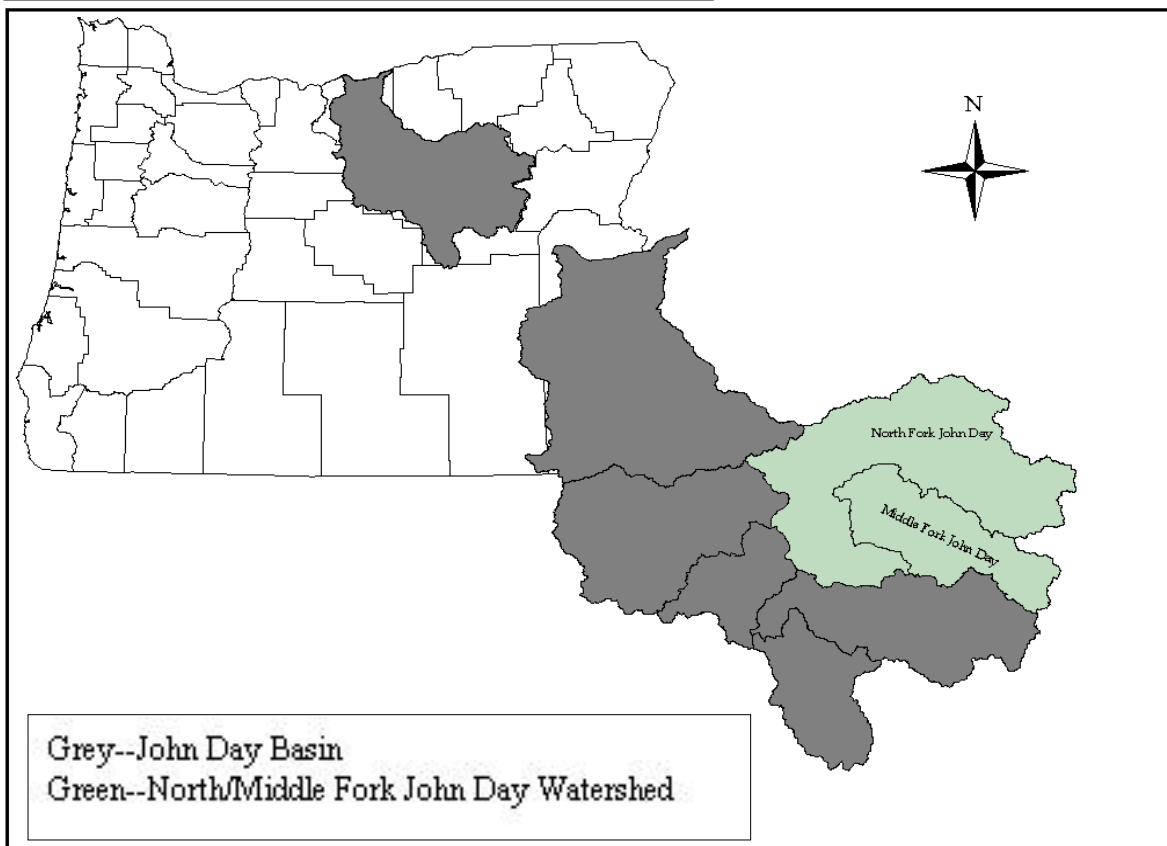
The North Fork is the most important subbasin in terms of water quality and flow to the John Day River. Sixty percent of the average annual discharge of the John Day Basin is provided by the North Fork (OWRD, 174). The North and Middle Forks combine to produce 82 percent of the spring chinook and 73 percent of the summer steelhead population for the John Day Basin. These are the largest spawning population of wild spring chinook and summer steelhead remaining in the Columbia River system.

The council hired a full-time coordinator in 1996 and began coordinating restoration projects in 1997. Restoration projects initiated and coordinated by the council include riparian fencing, push-up dam elimination, water quality monitoring, educational workshops, and riparian tree plantings. The North Fork John Day Watershed Council by-laws prioritize on-the-ground accomplishment and the collection and compilation of data upon which to base future implementation of actions affecting the watershed.

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council and Monument SWCD have outlined improving water quality in the North Fork John Day subbasin as their number one goal. Engineering and installation of effective alternatives to gravel push-up dams is specifically mentioned in the Monument SWCD annual work plan.

Riparian recovery is evident along the entire Monument to Kimberly reach of the North Fork. The majority of lands along the banks are hay fields, orchards, and recreational properties. Negative impacts caused by grazing have diminished in recent years. Construction and washout of gravel-push up dams is one of the main contributors to riparian degradation along this reach. Banks and beds are scoured for materials to construct the temporary dams. Designing and installing workable alternatives to these dams provides immediate and long term benefits to riparian areas, water quality, fisheries, and overall watershed health.

North/Middle Fork John Day Watershed



**1998 NORTH FORK JOHN DAY WATERSHED COUNCIL BPA PROJECTS
BPA BUDGET SUMMARY**

BPA Contract	BPA Project #	Project Name	Total Cost	BPA Funding	Cost Share
98 BI 11181	9801700	Eliminate Gravel Push-up Dams in Lower North Fork John	\$59775.66	\$43695.66	\$16080.00

Project # 9801700



Kimberly/Monument Reach--Lower North Fork John Day



River Meadows Push-up dam elimination project during construction

Project: Eliminate Gravel Push-up Dams in Lower North Fork John Day

Background: The River Meadows and Schultz sites are located upstream from Kimberly between river miles 4-5 of the North Fork John Day. During periods of low flow irrigators along this section of the North Fork are forced to construct gravel push-up dams in order to provide sufficient flow and storage for pumping. These gravel berms are impediments to both anadromous and resident fish. The instream modifications result in migration impediments, large pools of standing water, and increased sediment loads during construction and washout.

Objectives: The Lower North Fork John Day Push-up Dam Elimination Project is intended to enhance spring chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and resident habitat by meeting the objectives below:

1. Reduce sediment loads and movement.
2. Increase bank stability.
3. Eliminate seasonal passage impediments.
4. Reestablish riparian vegetation in disturbed areas.

Project Description: This project will eliminate gravel push-up dams on the Monument-Kimberly reach of the lower North Fork John Day River by the following:

1. Engineer, design, and install alternatives to temporary gravel push-up dams.
2. Replant native grasses, shrubs, and trees to promote bank stability and stream shading.
3. Construct riparian grazing exclosures (where applicable).
4. Perform biannual maintenance checks in cooperation with landowner.

Project Monitoring: Monitoring plan includes:

1. Establishment of permanent photo points.
2. Monitoring of water quality throughout irrigation season. Parameters include, but are not limited to, temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity.
3. Bi-annual stream profiling at each installation.
4. Compute and analyze irrigation efficiency annually.

Start Date: July 1998
Completion Date: Project is active

Total Cost-to-Date: \$59775.66
BPA Cost: \$43695.66
Cost Share: \$16080.00

Contacts:

Robert Stubblefield
North Fork John Day Watershed Council
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2141

Collaborators:

North Fork John Day Watershed Council
Bonneville Power Administration
Monument SWCD
Bureau of Land Management
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
Monument High School
Columbia Power Co-op
Oregon Department of Water Resources

Monument SWCD Annual Report

1998-99

Monument SWCD Directors

Jack Cavender--Chairman

Joan Silver--Treasurer

Clyde Davidson--Director

Robert Cockrell--Director, Clerk

Jim Barker--Director

Betty Maynard--Associate Director

Leonard Paul Osburn--Associate Director



SOLV/North Fork John Day Watershed Council Down by the Riverside Cleanup Day--May 1999

Monument SWCD Meetings

Monument SWCD Meetings are held in the Monument Senior Center the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. during daylight savings time and 6:30 p.m. the remainder of the year. The monthly meetings provide district residents an opportunity to be briefed on activities of the Monument SWCD as well as cooperating county, state, and federal agencies. A mailing list is maintained for meeting minutes and notices. Contact Monument SWCD if you are interested in receiving future mailings.

Monument SWCD Local Management Agency for Agricultural Water Quality Management Program

Under a Memorandum of Agreement with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Monument SWCD is serving as the Local Management Agency for the Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan.

A Local Advisory Committee was formed in October of 1998 and has been meeting bimonthly since. Meetings alternate between the Monument Senior Center and Long Creek High School. The committee is currently working on revision of the draft Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan for the North/Middle Fork Subbasin.

Literature is available from the Monument SWCD detailing the Agricultural Water Quality Management Process. Brochures currently available include *Water Quality and Agriculture in Oregon*, *Getting Ahead of the Curve with SB 1010*, *Early Action Guide*, and *Water Rights and SB 1010*.

For information regarding meeting time and place and/or informational brochures contact Local Management Agency representative Robert Stubblefield at Monument SWCD.

Monument SWCD
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2141

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Introduction to Monument SWCD

Monument SWCD was one of the first districts established in Oregon. In 1937 the district was chartered with the following Board of Directors: Walt Foree, Zephyr Harrison, Fred Legler, Lynn Forest, and Fred Gasner. The district covered northern Grant County, including the Ritter area. Later, other areas of the county petitioned to establish a district that would take in the remainder of the county and the Ritter area was annexed into Grant SWCD. Monument directors voted to conform their boundary with that of Monument School District #8. Grant County is one of the few counties in Oregon with two active Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Monument SWCD has never requested a property tax base. Directors are elected by registered voters at a general election. Candidates must have agreed to serve and have submitted a petition within the time period established by law with the names of ten registered voters from the district who support the candidate. Associate Directors are appointed by the Board of Directors.

Monument SWCD Water Quality Monitoring Program

Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator Blaine Hoy has made significant progress with the program during the past year. He has developed a database of water temperature data including information from the United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Monument High School, as well as data gathered by other SWCD's and watershed councils within the John Day Basin. A database incorporating other water quality parameters such as dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, turbidity, and macroinvertebrates sampling is in the developmental stage. This data will be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of North Fork John Day Watershed Council and Monument SWCD restoration/enhancement projects.

Due to the success of several grant proposals, Monument SWCD was able to hire Sarah Mundy as a part-time monitoring assistant for the lower John Day Basin. Sarah's duties include developing new monitoring sites, outreach to schools, gathering and organizing data, and developing files for each monitoring site.

The gathering and storage of credible water quality data remains a high priority for Monument SWCD. This commitment has been an important component in securing funding for staffing and

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North Fork John Day Watershed Council

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council continued work on planning, restoration, enhancement, and educational activities within the North/Middle Fork subbasins. The watershed council holds monthly meetings alternating between Monument and Long Creek where interested parties are briefed on council, agency, and private landowner watershed work.

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council plans to begin the watershed assessment process within the next calendar year. A comprehensive watershed assessment is a key component to formulating an effective action plan and securing funding for future council activities and projects.

The watershed council coordinator position is funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. During the past year the North Fork John Day Watershed Council cooperated on projects with Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Bonneville Power Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, Ukiah, Long Creek, and Monument Schools, Oregon Department of Transportation, and SOLV (Stop Litter & Vandalism).

North Fork John Day Watershed Council

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Watershed Council--Continued
from page 2

meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month alternating locations between Monument Senior Center and Long Creek High School. Please call Robert Stubblefield, Coordinator at the Monument SWCD office if you wish to be placed on the NFJDWC mailing list.

North Fork John Day Watershed Council

Jack Cavender--Chairman

Clint Barber

Jim Cannon

Ron Gaither

Shaun Robertson

Kone Hancock

LaVelle Holmes

Clayton Livingston

Rick Henslee

Ron Burnette

Mark Reitman

Bill Dixon

Monument SWCD Native Plant Nursery

Monument Soil and Water Conservation District continued to operate and expand the native plant nursery. The nursery has been in operation for eight years and is able to provide over 30 varieties of riparian and farmstead species. All trees available are adapted to John Day Basin conditions and are field-raised. Bare root plants are available in season and some trees and shrubs are available in containers throughout the spring.

Monument SWCD provides plantings for all District and Watershed Council riparian projects. Chairman Jack Cavender puts in many hours at the nursery and greenhouse working to maintain and improve the nursery.

Please call 541-934-2141 for a list of available species or for more information.



Monument SWCD Native Plant Nursery--Monument, OR

Monitoring Program--Continued
from page 2

projects. Funding agencies recognize the importance of obtaining credible data, and this should enable Monument SWCD to continue improving and expanding the monitoring program annually.

The water quality monitoring program is a cooperative effort with area schools, agencies, and landowners. The Monument High School Student Watershed Enhancement Team (SWET) assists with the gathering, analyzing, and storage of water quality data. Monument High School Teacher Ron Gaither began his monitoring program in 1988, and Monument SWCD appreciates the efforts of Ron and his students in initiating and expanding the program. Ron, Lorraine Thomas, Debra Hunt, and Melanie Hunt gave a well-received audio/visual presentation at the Fall 1998 Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board Conference in Ontario. The SWET program has received statewide recognition.

Monument SWCD looks forward to continuing and expanding our cooperative water quality monitoring efforts with John Day Basin Schools.

Monument SWCD Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Marks Tenth Anniversary

This past season was the tenth year that Monument SWCD has sponsored an Oregon Youth Conservation Corps crew. The OYCC program has been a highly successful program for both the District and the Monument community. Over fifty youths have been employed under the program.

Crew leader Steve Lockhart did an excellent job building on the success of past projects as well as initiating new activities. The crew performed trail maintenance and cleanup at Cavender Conservation Pond, installed a memorial marker and repaired fence at the LeRoy Quail Refuge, prepared planting bundles for Oregon Department of Transportation, planted riparian areas along the North Fork John Day, as well as maintaining the Monument SWCD Native Plant Nursery and working on numerous other community and conservation projects.

Past members of the Monument SWCD crew have gone on to major in natural resource related fields of study and to employment with companies and agencies specializing in management of natural resources.

The OYCC program has managed to diversify funding sources over the past two years. Generous financial and in-kind support has been provided by the Oregon Parks Foundation, the Ralph Smith Foundation, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Grant County, Oregon Department of Forestry, City of Monument, Training and Employment Consortium, and Bureau of Land Management.

Monument SWCD looks forward to continuing sponsorship of an OYCC crew and providing educational and employment opportunities to the youth of our community.



OYCC Crew and Craig Foster of ODFW at LeRoy Quail Refuge

Watershed Council Day at the Legislature

Three representatives of the North Fork John Day Watershed Council attended Watershed Council Day at the Legislature in early April. Rick Henslee, Clayton Livingston, and Robert Stubblefield traveled to Salem to meet with representatives of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and our legislators.

Senator Ted Ferrioli and Representative Lynn Lundquist both took time out of their busy schedules to meet with our delegation and listen to our concerns. They shared their ideas as to the role of watershed councils and emphasized their commitment to supporting the work being performed by local, grass-roots organizations such as the watershed council.



North Fork John Day Watershed Council push-up dam elimination project

Monument & Kimberly Effort MAKE

The District MAKE Committee is a standing committee chaired by Director Joan Silver. It is an important component of the Monument SWCD. MAKE is involved in development of long range economic plans for the community, with a goal to provide modest population growth and improve the quality of life in our community.

During the past years members of MAKE have been involved in securing funding and beginning construction of the Monument sewer and wastewater treatment facility. MAKE continues to work cooperatively with the City of Monument and a variety of state and federal agencies throughout the funding, permitting, and implementation of community projects.

The MAKE committee compiled and published a cookbook of recipes from the Monument community. The cookbook has been a successful project and copies remain available. The cookbooks make excellent gifts. Contact the Monument SWCD office or Joan Silver if you would like a copy.

MAKE committee goals for the coming year include continuing work on the Monument sewer project and working toward refining and implementing the long-range plan.

MAKE committee members meet monthly and welcome visitors and suggestions for improving the economic and social structure of our community.

Monument SWCD and North Fork John Day Watershed Council Staff

Robert Stubblefield--Watershed Council Coordinator
Blaine Hoy--Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator
Sarah Mundy--Water Quality Monitoring Technician



North Fork John Day Watershed Council and BLM Bridge Creek Tour--June 1999

Educational Activity Cooperators

North Fork John Day Watershed Council
Monument SWCD
Department of Environmental Quality
Monument Schools
Long Creek Schools
Wheeler County Schools
Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Schools
Wheeler SWCD
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board



Monument SWCD/ North Fork John Day Watershed Council Monitoring Workshop--March 1999

Monument Soil and Water Conservation District
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended June 30 ,1999

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
			June 30, 1999	June 30, 1998
Revenues				
Local funds	\$ 1,285	\$ 183	\$ 1,468	\$ 3,925
County funds	2,338		2,338	1,105
Intergovernmental grants	17,427	12,878	30,305	35,734
Grants, other		112,913	112,913	4,000
Interest	988		988	1,059
Total revenues	22,038	125,974	148,012	45,823
Expenditures				
Personal services		52,248	52,248	32,031
Purchased services	600	27,962	28,562	1,850
Materials and supplies	11,863	5,251	17,114	15,142
Capital outlay		47,865		
Total expenditures	12,463	133,326	145,789	49,023
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	9,575	(7,352)	2,223	(3,200)
Fund balance at beginning of year	26,341	(4,281)	22,060	25,260
Fund balance at end of year	\$ 35,916	\$ (11,633)	\$ 24,283	\$ 22,060

Monument SWCD
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864